



TRICARE SENIOR PRIME
OFFICE OF PLAN ADMINISTRATION
TRICARE Northwest
Madigan Army Medical Center
Tacoma, Washington 98431

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Information Alert

SUBJECT: Transitional Cases

The following defines how claims are paid for patients who are in a transitional status (whether they are moving from one HMO plan to another, from FFS to a plan, or vice versa).

If a person is hospitalized in a Prospective Payment System (PPS) hospital, the plan/insurer at the time of admission is responsible for the Part A claim through discharge, not the new plan/insurer. This means if a person enrolls into TSP while already in a PPS facility, the old plan/insurer is responsible for the claim. If the admission is to a non-PPS hospital (long term psychiatric, some rural and community facilities that don't use DRGs) the Part A claims are split based upon effective date of enrollment. For Part B claims, the rule still remains split based on the effective date of enrollment with the new plan/insurer. For outpatient services, whoever the beneficiary was enrolled with or had insurance with at the time of the visit is responsible for paying the outpatient claim.

This information should be provided to administrators and providers involved with the implementation, training or delivery of care for TRICARE Senior Prime.